

gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Emily Carnes, a former resident of South Carolina's Fifth District who dedicated her life to the preservation of the historic Buford battlefield.

The Battle of Buford was significant and momentous in the southern campaign during our Revolutionary War. 113 Continental troops perished during this struggle and another 150 suffered terrible wounds.

Witnessing this carnage was Emily Carnes' great-great-grandfather, Jacob. Emily would go on to tell her ancestor's story in her book, "Jacob Was There".

The book describes Jacob Carnes, who was 16 years old at the time, and on the fateful day of May 29 of 1780, Jacob was employed plowing in a field close to the historic site when the Continental troops under Colonel Abraham Buford clashed with the British forces led by Lieutenant-Colonel Banastre Tarleton.

Jacob hid behind a tree during the struggle, but was eventually discovered by British troops, who took him into custody. While in their custody, British troops commanded Jacob to bury an American soldier alive. Jacob refused.

In reply, a British soldier fired his musket and shot off one of Jacob's fingers, therefore, adding Jacob's name to the long list of patriots who gave their blood for our freedom.

In remembrance of her great-great-grandfather's traumatic experience and the historic importance of the battle to the southern campaign, Emily Carnes singlehandedly cared for and preserved the 2 acres of leaf and debris-filled battlefield for years. She did this with no support and very few means. Indeed, she couldn't even afford to fly a flag in remembrance of those who gave their life for our independence.

Finally, in 2010, the Friends of Buford Massacre Battlefield was established, and Ms. Carnes was awarded an honorary member.

Thanks to Ms. Carnes' lifelong efforts, the former 2-acre site now encompasses over 47 acres of surrounding land on which the battle was fought, with the site now proudly flying the Stars and Stripes, the Buford Battle flag, and the State flags of Virginia and South Carolina.

The site now also includes modern comforts like a patio, walkways, informational kiosks, and a memorial bronze plaque inscribed with the names of 216 men recognized for defending their country in the Battle of Buford.

We thank Ms. Carnes for her lifelong passion and dedication to this sacred soil and for preserving this moment in a State and Nation's history for all of us to remember and enjoy.

WE CAN PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF LGBTQ INDIVIDUALS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the Equality Act.

First and foremost, I must begin by saying that I believe the LGBTQ community is a critical part of the fabric of our country. They are deserving of our unequivocal love and respect, and their contributions to my home State of Utah are utterly invaluable.

As the mayor of Provo, I prioritized inclusion and love, and sought to ensure my administration did everything possible to recognize the intrinsic value of all of our citizens, including our LGBTQ community.

I fought hard against discrimination and was grateful for my associations with organizations like Provo Pride, Equality Utah, Encircle, and others, who I was honored to stand with to ensure that our city motto of "Welcome Home" extended to everyone.

Perhaps even more important than that, I am grateful for the association and relationships of my life that have helped me better understand the experiences of the LGBTQ community, and who have been patient with me, a conservative Utah boy raised in the 1960s, who took longer than I am proud of to gain empathy for this important issue.

Again, I say I am incredibly grateful for the contribution of the LGBTQ community and will always stand with them in respect and support.

With the Equality Act, we face a unique challenge: balancing the needs and protections against discrimination with the importance of protecting religious liberty, which is one of the fundamental rights enshrined at the foundation of our Nation.

I believe this compromise is possible, because I have seen it before in my home State with historic legislation called the Utah Compromise that effectively balanced the absolute rights of both LGBTQ individuals as human beings and religious institutions protected by the First Amendment.

The Equality Act fails to strike that balance. Instead, these two interests are treated as zero sum games, with no good-faith effort put forth for both sides to win.

This bill would end longstanding religious liberties under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, a historic bipartisan legislative victory fought for by the current Democratic leader in the Senate, CHUCK SCHUMER; my own Utah mentor, Orrin Hatch, a Republican; and liberal icon, Ted Kennedy. It was also signed into law by Democrat Bill Clinton.

I have introduced commonsense amendments that would help achieve this critical balance of protection for both maintaining the standards against discrimination and religious freedom, but I am frustrated that House Democratic leaders have decided

there will not be any consideration or even debate of amendments to the Equality Act. Instead, they have established a model of legislative gas-lighting.

In this case, they are taking issues where broad bipartisan agreement is possible and taking the debate right off the table on issue after issue, whether it be climate change, violence against women, and now the Equality Act.

They disregard willing partners, such as myself, standing here hoping to work with them, and instead, prefer to pass party-line bills that won't go anywhere so they have issues to campaign on.

If my colleagues on the other side of the aisle truly want to achieve progress on this issue, I hope they will recognize that they have a willing partner in me, but they must be willing to work together to legislate and make room to protect both religious liberty and the LGBTQ community.

Exploiting yet another group in order to pass a campaign message bill along party lines is not in harmony with this body.

I hope they will hear me today and change course before we vote on this bill.

RECOGNIZING JUSTIN MASSIELO AND EMELIE CURTIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize two impressive student athletes from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who are making their school and our entire community very proud.

Justin Massiello and Emelie Curtis, students at Pennsbury High School in Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania, both recently hit impressive milestones in their respective sports.

Justin, a senior, recently recorded his 100th hit as a 4-year starter for the Falcons' varsity baseball team, and Emelie, a junior, just notched her 100th career goal as a 3-year starter for the Falcons' varsity girls lacrosse team.

What makes their achievements even more special, Madam Speaker, is that Justin and Emelie also are cousins.

On behalf of our entire community, I would like to congratulate Justin and Emelie on their notable athletic achievements. We wish them, and their families continued success.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT TERRY HUGHES

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, this week is National Police Week, and I rise today to recognize a dedicated law enforcement professional from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who recently retired after a very distinguished career in public service.

Lieutenant Terry Hughes of the Bristol Township Police Department retired after over 30 years in local law enforcement.

A resident of Bristol Township throughout his entire life, Lieutenant

Hughes previously worked at the police departments in Hulmeville, Newtown Township, Northampton, and Middletown before joining his hometown's police force in 1990.

Throughout his entire tenure in Bristol Township, Terry became a senior member of the department, leading detectives, running special investigations, and he was a driving force in public outreach.

Madam Speaker, I had the opportunity to personally work with Lieutenant Hughes on the Department of Justice's Weed and Seed program.

We thank our friend, Terry, for his years of public service and for protecting our community. Terry has law enforcement in his blood, and I have no doubt whatsoever that his service in protecting our community will carry on.

ST. MICHAEL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CELEBRATES 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a faith community in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, that recently celebrated a very special milestone.

St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sellersville commemorates its 150th anniversary this year.

First commissioned in 1869, St. Michael's was to be a union church between Reformed and Lutheran Christians. Nearly 2,000 people attended one of St. Michael's consecration ceremonies.

The church is rich with tradition and history. Early sermons were spoken in German, and in 1904, the church became the first building in Sellersville to have electricity.

Today, the St. Michael's community is as active as ever, participating in community meals, working on community gardens, and providing food for Pennridge FISH and Keystone Opportunity Center, and offering numerous educational programs.

Madam Speaker, we congratulate the St. Michael's faith community on their 150th anniversary of such an amazing and special place.

I would also like to thank Pastor Julie Bergdahl for her pastoral care and leadership.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LANGEVIN) at noon.

PRAYER

Rabbi Bruce Lustig, Washington Hebrew Congregation, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, without whom life has no spiritual source, no divine meaning, purpose, or destiny, but with whom there is power for the present and hope for the future, refresh our faith that the strains of life may not break our spirits. Restore our confidence that our world is undergirded by eternal purpose.

Bless those who give service of heart to this great Nation. Give them strength to temper their judgments by the compassion of the human soul. Know that none are free until all are free, free from fear, want, bigotry, and callous hatred of the other. Let the courage of their convictions make America worthy of her past and blessed by her future.

Let not cynicism blight, nor faithlessness uproot our confidence to live as we pray, so that, unashamed, our leaders may transmit to generations to come an America better than ours.

Hear our prayer.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING RABBI BRUCE LUSTIG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Rabbi Bruce Lustig, who just led us in this wonderful opening prayer.

Rabbi Lustig is senior rabbi of the Washington Hebrew Congregation, which is Washington, D.C.'s largest and oldest synagogue and where many of my constituents worship.

The son of a refugee from Nazi Germany, his mother, Hedy Lustig, Rabbi Lustig grew up in Nashville, Tennessee, where he was often the only Jewish child at school. The strong cultural identity instilled by his mother, and the emphasis his family placed on en-

gaging with his Christian friends and classmates, laid the foundation for his lifelong commitment to interfaith work, including his efforts to open dialogue and strengthen relationships among Jews, Christians, Muslims, and people of all faiths.

Ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Rabbi Lustig holds a doctorate of divinity and a master's degree in Hebrew letters. He earned his bachelor's with honors from the University of Tennessee.

In delivering today's opening prayer in the House, Rabbi Lustig continues a venerable and important tradition. Since the Washington Hebrew Congregation was created in 1862, every single one of its senior rabbis has delivered an opening prayer before the U.S. Congress. Rabbi Lustig now joins that esteemed group.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to welcome Rabbi Lustig to the House today, and I would like to extend my thanks for his excellent leadership in our community and for offering today's prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CELEBRATING HEAD START AND COMMEMORATING THE MEMORY OF DR. EDWARD ZIGLER

(Mr. LARSON of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Head Start program on its 54th anniversary and the 25th anniversary of Early Head Start.

I had the proud distinction of serving with Dr. Edward Zigler of Yale University, who passed away this past year. He was a leader in this and worked with every President from JOHN KENNEDY to Barack Obama.

He is generally regarded as the father of the Head Start program but also regarded for his longstanding work with children. In fact, it was Ed Zigler who said, "My politics are children," and then proceeded to dedicate a lifetime to creating remedies for childcare, which he labeled, in America, "a cosmic crashout."

So many young people today experience the dilemma of balancing their work with bringing up their children. But it was Ed Zigler's leadership that recognized we should utilize our schools. He promoted School of the 21st Century as a way for us to get our arms around the whole issue of having safe, affordable childcare.

I rise today to commemorate his memory and congratulate the Head Start program.